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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/747,901	12/22/2000	Atsushi Otani	1232-4667	4450

7590 08/18/2004
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EXAMINER

GIBBS, HEATHER D

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2622

DATE MAILED: 08/18/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/747,901

Applicant(s)

OTANI, ATSUSHI

Examiner

Heather D Gibbs

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 22 December 2000.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-23 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 9 and 19 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 5-8, 10, 15-17 and 20-23 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4, 11-14 and 18 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 22 December 2000 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>3</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: Page 30 Line 3, change "R, B, and B" to "R, G, and B". Page 30 Line 7, change "R, B" to "R, G".

Appropriate correction is required.

Response to Amendment

1. The amendment filed on 04/16/2004 has been entered and made of record. Claims 9,19 have been deleted.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 5-8,10,15-17,20-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Narumiya (US 4,896,146).

Regarding claim 21, which is representative of claims 22-23, Narumiya discloses a memory medium that stores software for processing a plurality of colors of image data that form an image, said software including: an image reading step of operating an image reading unit to line-sequentially read out an original and output a plurality of color components of image data in units of lines while time-divisionally irradiating the original with

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the plurality of colors, (Col 3 Lines 2-20; 66-68) and a processing step of writing the plurality of color components of image data for one line outputted from the image reading unit into a buffer memory, after that, forming an image reading period of the image reading unit for a next line, reading out the plurality of color components of the image data for the one line from the buffer memory and performing masking operation on the read image data for the one line (Col 4 Lines 51-56).

Regarding claim 5, which is representative of claim 15, Narumiya teaches wherein the plurality of image data are R, G, and B data, and said image processor executes a process generates output image data by simultaneously referring to the R, G, and B data (Fig 1).

Considering claim 6, which is representative of claim 16, Narumiya teaches wherein the plurality of image data are R, G, and B data, and said image processor executes a process for converting the R, G, and B data into C, M, Y, and K data (Col 3 Lines 20-35).

Considering claim 7, which is representative of claim 17, Narumiya teaches wherein said image processor processes the plurality of colors of image data read out from said memory controller within a period which has the same duration as a period in which said image processor writes the plurality of color components of image data for one line in said buffer memory (Col 3 Lines 66-68; Col 4 Lines 1-11).

Regarding claim 8, Narumiya teaches wherein said image processor writes image data which have been output from said image reading unit and have undergone a predetermined process in said buffer memory (Col 4 Lines 15-35).

Regarding claim 10, which is representative of claim 20, Narumiya teaches further comprising an output unit for outputting image data processed by said image processor (Fig 1;Ref 13).

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claims 1-4,11-14,18 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Conclusion

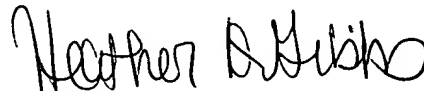
5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Kondo et al (US 5,781,242) Image Processing Apparatus and Mapping Method for Frame Memory; Penard et al (US 4,918,527) Device and Method with Buffer Memory, Particularly for Line/Column Matrix Transposition of Data Sequences.

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Heather D Gibbs whose telephone number is 703-306-4152. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8AM-4PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edward L. Coles can be reached on 703-305-4712. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Heather D Gibbs
Examiner
Art Unit 2622

hdg



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